

WØMTL — **Hannibal Amateur Radio Club News** — WØKEM

MARCH, 2010



HARC OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: HOWARD BARNES, KØDFW
V-PRES: LUAN SANDBERG, KC9PGS
SECRETARY: FRED MILLER, KBØWIL
TREASURER: TONY GILLILAND, WØPGL
TRUSTEE: CLIFF AHRENS, KØCA
EDITOR: BONNIE SINCLAIR, WBØWAP

Next Scheduled Meeting: Wednesday
MARCH 10, at 7:30 PM

Regular Meetings are held at Beth Haven Nursing Home, 2500 Pleasant St., Hannibal, Mo.
 Enter at the main entrance; turn left through the lounge area to the elevator. Take the elevator down to the first floor, and go to your right/left around the corner, down the hall to the cafeteria.

FCC VE TEST DATES FOR YEAR OF 2010 **Hannibal, MO ARC 2010 Exam Dates**

April 14th, 2010, July 14th, 2010,
October 13th, 2010

Exams will take place at 8:30 PM after the regular scheduled HARC meeting. The exam session will be at the Beth Haven Nursing Home, in the Cafeteria on the 1st (lower) Floor, 2500 Pleasant St., Hannibal, MO. Registration is required at least 72 hours before the exam session by contacting the team liaison, Fred Miller- KBØWIL at kb0wil@arrl.net or 573-221-2429.

The 2010 test fee will be unchanged at \$15.00. It goes to ARRL/VEC. Bring a photo ID (or two non-photo ID's); if currently licensed, bring the original and a photocopy of your valid FCC license; and if you are claiming credit for successful

completion of an exam, bring the original and photocopy of any applicable CSCE's.

HARC MONDAY NIGHT NET **CALL LIST OF VOLUNTEER OPERATORS** **MARCH 2010**

1	WØPGL	TONY
8	KØDFW	HOWARD
15	N9UPG	BILL
22	KB9VIS	BRIAN
29	KBØWIL	FRED

THANKS TO ALL!

HANNIBAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB **MINUTES**



Minutes by: Fred-KBØWIL HARC-Secretary

Date: February 6th, 2010

Location: Golden Corral Restaurant, Hannibal, Mo.

Supper called to order by: Howie-KØDFW

**'TONY!'****Who would have thought!! YAESU!!****Treasurers report: Tony-WØPGL**

Cash-\$932.99 CD-\$1,282.05 Total-\$2,215.04

Repeater report: Fred-KBØWIL

The repeaters are working and sounding great, no problems.

HARC 2010 Officers:

President-Howie-KØDFW,

Vice President Luan-KC9PGS,

Treasurer Tony-WØPGL,

Secretary Fred-KBØWIL,

Newsletter Editor Bonnie-WBØWAP.

HARC 2009 Member Of The Year:**Carol Bartlett-WA9EFV**

We presented the award tonight at the February 6th, 2010 supper/get together.

Carol is greatly deserving of this award, he has always contributed a lot to our club. Congratulations Carol.

It was a great turnout with a total of 31 members, there families and guests attending our annual event, at the Golden Corral. We all had a good time, and a lot of laughs. The club gave away some very nice door prizes, and Howie-KØDFW donated several items as well. There are some great pictures of our get together that Tony WØPGL took, and Fred uploaded them to the clubs website

K9P Special Event: May 1st, 2010 (Saturday)

We voted to operate K9P again this year, at the Famous Redneck Retreat.

Nancy & Carol-WA9EFV graciously will let us operate there. Carol-WA9EFV will be the head honcho, after he asks Nancy for approval.

The operating dates are April 30th-May 2nd. The times will be decided at a future meeting. Fred-KBØWIL will take care of acquiring the 1X1 approval, and as well listing the event in QST magazine.

* Update: we are now listed in the ARRL 1X1 call sign section, and will also be in the April QST magazine special event section.

Following is a sample of the K9P QSL card

Day-Month-Year		UTC	Confirming QSO with	RST	Frequency	"Mode"-2-Way
00-00-0000		00:00	W6XRL4	5X9	20 MHZ	USB

The K9P Special Event Station is sponsored by The Hannibal Amateur Radio Club, Inc Hannibal, Missouri

Field Day June 26th-27th 2010:

We will be operating again this year at Huckleberry Park, here in Hannibal Mo. Start time will be 8:00 AM local time or 13:00 ZULU. We will have more details in future newsletters, as to how many stations we will be operating, antennas, etc. Plan on attending, and help us set up the equipment, and or operate, SSB or a CW station. Fred-KBØWIL has reserved the Pavillion for both days.

Breakfast Club Picnic: July- 2010

The BC picnic will be on July 16, 17, and 18th, 2010. It will be here in Hannibal Mo. Contact Carol-WA9EFV, Tony-WØPGL, or J.D-WØAJD if your interested in attending or helping with the activities. More information will be forthcoming in future newsletters. The BC picnic information is available on the clubs website, main page, under 2010 BC Picnic Info.

HARC Club Barbeque:
July 31st, 2010(Saturday)

We will be having our annual club barbeque on Saturday July 31st, at the Huckleberry Park Pavilion, same location as last year. We will discuss in more detail in upcoming meetings as to start time. As usual it will be a carry in of a side dish, deserts, cookies, cakes, salads, etc of the HARC members. The barbeque is for HARC members and their families only. Fred-KBØWIL has taken care of the reservations for the pavilion.

Quincy Hamfest August 7th, 2010:

The WIARC Hamfest will be on Saturday August 7th, 2010. Plan on attending and help support this great hamfest.

Redneck Retreat Annual Party

Sunday August 8th, 2010:

The world famous get-together at the Redneck Retreat, will be held again this year. Carol will be there, but Nancy is in charge. So, if you have any important questions, ** Please ask Nancy first, Coonie second, and Carol as the last resort.

HARC Dues for 2010:

The HARC dues are now due, please pay Tony-WØPGL at the next meeting or you can send them in to the clubs mailing address listed below. The dues are \$20.00 annually, and each additional family member is \$5.00. Please pay no later than March 10th, the next club meeting. Thanks.

Hannibal Amateur Radio Club
 P.O. Box 1522
 Hannibal, Mo 63401

Note: Mike, NA9Q is doing the DX column, in the club newsletter. He started in January issue. Thanks Mike, for doing this for our club.

Minutes of the meeting as recorded by:
 Fred-KBØWIL HARC Secretary



ARRL Field Day: 2010 Field Day Packets
Now Available

It's that time of year again -- time to start gearing up for ARRL Field Day, June 26-27, 2010! ARRL's flagship operating event -- always held the fourth full weekend in June -- brings together new and experienced hams for 24 hours of operating fun. Field Day packets are now [available for download](http://www.arrrl.org/benefits) and include the complete rules (including changes for 2010), as well as other reference items such as forms, ARRL Section abbreviation list, entry submission instructions, a Frequently Asked Questions section, guidelines for getting bonus points, instructions for GOTA stations, a kit to publicize your event with the local press and more.

**Copied from article in ARRL March 2010 Newsletter
 By ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA*

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK
FEBRUARY 2010
BY HOWARD BARNES K0DFW



Hey, you know yesterday, I saw a flight of buzzards circling on the updrafts, and the day

before, I saw a robin bouncing in between the melting snow drifts, looking for something to eat, and the skunks are really moving now, which is apparent by road kills, because it is their breeding season.....Spring is here! But, don't put away those snow shovels yet, and, did it get down to 4 degrees this week? Mother nature likes to really play with you this time of year but the days are getting longer, and it won't be long before we will fire up the grills at the Red Neck Retreat!

Speaking of the Red Neck Retreat. I distinctly remember giving a very prestigious award to a ham in the club just a few weeks ago, and that was Carol Bartlett WA9EFV. He is one of the elders of the club who really donates a lot to our Ham Radio Club. Over the years he has unselfishly donated his time, property, and equipment to the club. In the last few years he has been letting the radio club use his property to have our social get together at the Red Neck Retreat. If you have never been to one of the club functions over there, you are really missing out! We have several events each year, and one of those coming up is the K9P event, which celebrates the Annual Pistol Tournament at PASA Park, which is right next door to Carol's place. I can't think of anyone else that is more deserving of the "Amateur of the Year Award" than Carol! Congratulations Carol!

Well the sunspot cycle is starting to make a come back. If you haven't had your HF rig on the last couple month's, then it is time that you turn it on, and get the dust off of it, and see what is happening. I personally have been working all over Europe on 15 meters real early in the morning and it has been staying open late into the night. Last night I worked EI9JU, Gerry in Ireland and it was just a few minutes before midnight there in Ireland, and it was just a few minutes before 6:00 pm here. He was coming in 20 over s9, and I had no problem hearing what he had to say. He said he was tired of winter, and was looking forward to Spring. This week I have worked Greece, Lithuania, Bulgaria, France, Spain, Italy, Ukraine, Poland, and Slovenia, and that was while I was sitting with a bowl of cereal, eating my breakfast in my hand, and returning these calling CQ and "Beaming the USA". They are calling for contacts, and hardly anyone is coming back to them because everyone is sitting in front of the "boob tube" and don't have their HF rigs turned on. It is time to start DXing!!

We will have the K9P pistol event coming up this spring, and Field Day is not that far away. I will be looking for CW operators for the CW team. If you want to run, let me know, and I will get scheduled in for it. I will be looking for sib phones operators too. So if you are going to be at Field Day let me know. We placed in 1st place for Missouri in 4A last year, and this was goal, and we placed in the top 20 in the whole USA, so we didn't do too bad last year. We will need to do some more planning, and see where we can improve ourselves. Everyone says it's not a contestnoooo, but I think we should still put our best face on and "do it right!" Don't you think?

Well, get your HF rig on the air, and get active, and get your code speed up for field day and have fun watching the robins bouncing around in your yard!

Till next month's meeting, which is on March 10, be there or be square!

73s Howard K0DFW

"Amateur of the Year Award" Congratulations Carol, WA9EFV



HOWARD-K0DFW, CAROL-WA9EFV

DX Horizons March 2010 by Mike Nowack NA9Q



DX Notes



News for March: Cycle 24 may have been frustratingly slow to start but the last 30 days have seen solar flux levels and sunspot numbers not recorded in several years. In 2009, over 70% of the days were void of visible spots on the solar disk. Over the last 30 days there has been no day without at least one spot visible from Earth. Propagation on the HF bands has responded accordingly. The 20M band has been a buzz of activity most days, continuing into the evening hours. I have heard 4S7, VU, E5, ZL, and HS stations. It has been common to hear both European signals and South Pacific signals at the same time in the late afternoon on twenty. Activity on 15M 17M, 12M, and even 10M has also been on the upswing although they are still mainly daylight bands. Apparently the long awaited improved conditions brought out contesters and DXer's this past weekend by the score for the ARRL DX CW Test. The very few minutes I had to listen on Friday night indicated that it was going to be an exciting weekend. I have heard reports that several contest stations had record scores and that some personal all time bests were also eclipsed. One old timer mused that perhaps the Palos Verde Sundancers have come out of retirement at long last. If you understand that statement, you are as

old as I am. We can live in hope that cycle 24 will be a stunner.

General Activity: Look for several of the DX contest stations to continue on the air following the ARRL DX CW Test. And in a week or so, those hoping to score big in the ARRL DX Phone Test will be tuning up stations and antennas. It is a good time to pick up a few new band countries.

Bahrain – EI3IO, Dave will be active through August 2011, and in will operate the ARRL test in March as A92IO. QSL to home call.

Cape Verde – Massimo IZ0PDV will be active through March 9 as D44AC and in the Phone Test as D44C. QSL D4C direct to the home call, D44AC goes direct.

Burundi - DL3KBQ, DL2RSI, DH2KI and DJ2VO will operate as 9UXEV, 9U1RSI, 9U1KI and 9U1VO, respectively, from February 22 to March 6. QSL to home calls.

Cuba – Look for special call T46A in the ARRL Phone Test. QSL to CO6LC.

Sable Island - The previously announced and postponed operation is now on for October. Murray/WA4DAN, Ron/AA4VK, Randy/N0TG and Rick/AI5P will operate home calls /CY0. QSL to their home call.

Bulgaria – Special event station LZ132GO will commemorate the 132nd anniversary of the countries' freedom from the Ottoman Empire during March. QSL to LZ1ZF.

Marion Island – DX Magazine's number 3 most wanted will be activated by Pierre, ZF1HF as ZS8M beginning the end of April. He will be on the island for the next year and will use wire antennas and possibly an amplifier depending on his weight limitations. This is a working assignment and so operating time will thus be limited. However he plans to move Marion well down the list by his departure in 2011.

Aves Island – Watch for a team from Venezuela to active YV0 in April dependent upon military transport. Look for YW0A.

Iraq – A multinational team of ops has a ten day permit to operate from Kurdistan beginning April 3rd. This will be a contest style operation to maximize results. Call sign YI9PSE, details at www.yi9pse.com. Donations are sought as well.

Notes for March – This month I want to address using Log Book of The World. ARRL opened

LoTW several years ago and if you are not using it, I would sure ask yourself why not? It can save you lots of time and expense when chasing confirmations (QSL's) for DXCC and WAS. The use of the service is free to ARRL members and you only pay when you claim a credit for a QSO. And that cost is only about 25 cents or less each. When you consider the cost of a printed card, the postage to mail it overseas (98 cents) and the one or two IRC's you need to send to get a return (at \$2.10 each), LoTW is a real bargain. In fact for many the cost savings might well pay for your yearly ARRL membership. Also it provides a convenient way to view your total DXCC or WAS record. You can also file paperless applications on line for both awards, and in the future, look for other ARRL awards to be brought into LoTW.

LoTW can be a bit daunting to set up and requires a bit of patience in doing so but is easy to use once you get past the initial setup. Your files and records can be accessed using any of the common browsers (Internet Explorer, Firefox, etc). The only necessary item that you must provide is an electronic log in ADIF format. Many of the free or for fee electronic logbooks can export the log in that format. If you don't already keep an electronic log, maybe now is the time to start. Many other benefits come with an electronic log. Fast printing of QSL labels, searching the log for a long ago contact, or searching for old 75M band countries when 5BDXCC beckons. If you need help getting started, the ARRL has a fine tutorial on line and there are several in the club already using LoTW. I would be glad to help as I am sure the other users would be as well. Logs can be uploaded directly to LoTW and within a few seconds you will know if you have a match from any of your QSO's. And therein lies a major issue. Both parties to the QSO must be LoTW users for the system to work. So the more users, the better the return on your efforts. Granted we will never see 100% participation but everyone should consider joining the program and encourage others to do the same, especially DX stations. Just think, complete a contact with some distant DX station, upload the log to LoTW and within minutes have you QSL. That isn't a daydream, it can and does happen now.

Good hunting on the bands... and remember the first rule of DX; always listen, listen, listen before calling.

Thanks to the ARRL DX Bulletins, the OPDX Bulletin and the 425DXN Bulletin for some of the information above.

73, and good DX, Mike, NA9Q

FEBRUARY SUPPER GET TOGETHER OF THE HANNIBAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Pictures follows, and if you come to the next meeting, a video of the event will be shown to all, and none of us can hide or deny what is on tape! Ha! Thanks to Tony for the still pictures and thanks to Mel for the video.

WA9EFV MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Carol is greatly deserving of this award, he has always contributed a lot to our club. Congratulations and thanks Carol.







Mike and Arlyce. Arlyce has been ill, and in the hospital. We all wish her well, and hope she gets better soon!

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